

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Dole Valley
2. Name of applicant:
State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources and Clark County
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
**Zoanne Aylesworth
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 280
Castle Rock, WA 98611 (360) 577-2025**
4. Date checklist prepared: **August 31, 2004**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Summer/Fall 2004.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Forest Resource Plan, dated July 1992; State Soil Survey; Washington State Department of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan, dated September 1997; and ESA Listed Salmonid Species map from Forest Practices, dated 1999.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

A road use permit application for use of State land is on file, pending completion of SEPA review.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

DNR Forest Practice Application No. 2910494 addresses road construction activity.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The existing Dole Valley County Road is located between Rock Creek (type 1 water) and a forested/shrub-scrub wetland located in the SE1/4 of Section 5, Township 3 North, Range 4 East. The road is located in the overlapping riparian and wetland management zones of these water bodies. A slide has occurred on the steep outside meander curve of Rock Creek, which has eroded a portion of the county road. As of now, one lane is closed due to the road failure and it's likely more erosion will continue. This proposal will move the existing county road and easement right-of-way (ROW) approximately 50' to the south away from Rock Creek and the slide towards the wetland. The total area of road and ROW will remain essentially the same, however, they will be relocated. The road prism will lie adjacent to the wetland in some places, but will not be within the wetland, only within the WMZ.

Issuance of the Road Use Permit will authorize 900 feet of new road construction over State land by Clark County. The right of way will be approximately 60 feet in width, 900 feet in length, and contains approximately 1.2 acres of ground. The road running surface will be 24 feet in width.

The proposed road construction crosses two type 4 streams.

The road construction on State land will move a piece of County road away from a slide that occurred approximately two years ago. This slide deposited soil and debris directly into Rock Creek. The vacated road will be abandoned; asphalt surfacing will be removed and transported off-site. The old right of way will be replanted with tree species, eventually becoming part of the habitat within the riparian and wetland management zones. All trees felled within new right-of-way (ROW)

will be placed in the vacated/abandoned ROW to act as down woody material for the RMZ and as a mitigation measure for the WMZ.

Relocation of the existing road should reduce potential future adverse environmental impacts to Rock Creek (type 1 water) due to road failures on the currently existing road location.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

From the town of Battle Ground, travel north on HWY 503 approximately 4 miles. Turn Right on NE 319th, follow for 0.3 miles. Turn Right on NE 152nd Ave. 1.1 miles. Keep left onto NE Lucia Falls for 6.9 miles. Turn right onto NE Sunset Falls Rd. 2.0 miles. Bear right onto NE Dole Valley Rd for approximately 4 miles to the start of the project area. NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 5, T3N R4E.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

General description of the site: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

5 % where the road will be built.

What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Soil #	Soil Type	% Slope In Project	Soils % In Project	Mass Wasting Potential	Surface Erosion Potential
9600	Yacolt Silty Alluvium over Sand and Gravel	0-5%	100%	insignificant	low - medium

Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

This road prism is being moved to a more stable location due to a slide.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

New road will be graded prior to application of gravel and asphalt.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

There is potential for some minimal erosion to occur as a result of road construction activities. Road construction will conform to Clark County Road regulations which are more stringent than Forest Practices Rules. Management techniques identified below have been identified to minimize the risk of erosion.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Within the road right of way, approximately 1.2 acres will be utilized for sub-grade and running surface of the road.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Proper road construction design/location, good construction techniques, effective permit administration and normal road maintenance all should minimize the erosion potential. Ditching, out sloping, monitoring, and grass seeding will be utilized. All proposed measures will meet and/or exceed County regulations which are more stringent than Forest Practice Rules.

2. Air

What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Proposed road construction will involve vehicle emissions and some dust associated with movement of soil and placement and grading of rock.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None

3. Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The proposal lies within the overlapping riparian management zone of a type 1 water (Rock Creek) and the wetland management zone of a forest/shrub-scrub wetland. The proposal will be moving the existing ROW and road away from Rock Creek. Vacated ROW will be replanted with tree species and any timber felled will be placed in the old ROW for mitigation of impacts to the wetland and WMZ. The road will be moved towards a forested wetland and it's associated WMZ. The road will remain outside the wetland and trees felled within the ROW and WMZ will be left on site to act as down woody debris and mitigation in the WMZ and RMZ.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Yes. See previous question.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

None

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Ground water should not be significantly changed by this project.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None

c. Water runoff (including storm water):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Snow melt and rain are the main sources of water runoff. Runoff that is intercepted by road surfaces and ditches will be diverted onto the undisturbed adjacent ground where possible. Storm water runoff will be diverted from the ditch line to the forest floor by either cross-ditch or culvert installation.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

Proposed new road construction is along a ridgetop. Activities associated with this proposal will meet or exceed County regulations, which are more stringent than Forest Practice rules. The proposal will be moving the existing ROW and road away from Rock Creek. The road will remain outside the wetland and trees felled within the ROW and WMZ will be left on site to act as down woody debris and mitigation in the WMZ and RMZ.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

X Deciduous tree: alder, bigleaf maple

- ☒ evergreen tree: Douglas fir, western hemlock
- ☒ shrubs: Oregon grape, vine maple, ferns
- ☒ grass
- ☐ pasture
- ☐ crop or grain
- ☒ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage
- ☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil,
- ☐ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

The proposed construction crosses a 30 to 40 year old plantation consisting of Douglas fir and Hemlock. Ground vegetation on up to 1.2 acres of ground will be altered due to right of way clearing for the road construction.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

There are no threatened or endangered plant species known to be on or near the site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

Vacated ROW will be replanted with tree species and any timber felled will be placed in the old ROW for mitigation of impacts to the wetland and WMZ.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, grouse, woodpeckers, sparrows, crows
 mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, squirrels, coyote, bobcat
 fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish

List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

There are no threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. This proposal is located on Department of Natural Resources lands covered by a Habitat Conservation Plan. The HCP is a long-term land management plan to conserve threatened and endangered species including the northern spotted owl.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

The project area is within the Pacific flyway, but is not an area of resting or feeding.

The proposal lies within Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) for Lower Columbia River Chinook, Columbia River Chum and Lower Columbia River Steelhead.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Moving the road reduces potential future adverse environmental impacts to Rock Creek (type 1). The new road prism will also be kept out of the forested wetland. This will maintain the habitat of riparian obligate species. Abandonment of old road prism, placement of felled Right-of-Way trees upon the old road bed, and replanting of abandoned road bed will eventually create more riparian environment in this area.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

The completed project will not require energy.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None.

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Minimal hazard incident to operating or working around heavy machinery.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Washington Department of Ecology will be notified if any spills occur and appropriate action will be taken.

Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

No oil or lubricants will be disposed of on site. To mitigate potential fire, tools and equipment will be kept on site as required by the Industrial Fire Precaution level in effect for the operation's shutdown zone.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

There are no existing noises that will affect the project.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

During the road construction, maintenance, and harvest activities, there will be some noise associated with heavy equipment, chainsaws, and log truck operations.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The site is currently used for timber production and dispersed recreation activities.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

NA

Describe any structures on the site.

None

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Timber Lands

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Timber Production

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Does not apply

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

Does not apply

- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Historical and existing land use in the immediate vicinity has been for timber production uses. The proposed road construction and use will not change these activities.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Does not apply

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

No structures or building will be a part of the project on State land.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

No views will be obstructed as a result of the project.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None

11. Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Does not apply

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Informal: hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and other dispersed recreation.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

This project will not hamper recreational opportunities.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No. For this proposal, the TRAX system indicates no sites or objects of significance in the project area.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

N/A

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

None

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No. Approximately 25 miles.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

Does not apply

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Yes, this project will move a County road to a location away from a past slide.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

This proposal should result in no increase in vehicle trips per day upon completion. However, during road construction and timber harvest there may be approximately ten additional round trips per day.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

15. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

None anticipated

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

No impacts on public services are anticipated.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: **electricity**, natural gas, water, refuse service, **telephone**, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No utilities are proposed for this project.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Completed By:

Zoanne Aylesworth, Allen Estep

Approved By:

Jean Hobredt

State Lands Asst Reg Mgr
(Title)

Date:

Sept 14, 2004